

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PALERM 00673 070712Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
OMB-01 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 /086 W
-----041114 080155Z /20

R 070715Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL PALERMO
TO AMEMBASSY ROME
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2529

UNCLAS PALERMO 0673

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, IT
SUBJECT: PALERMO CITY GIUNTA RESIGNS

1. ON JULY 5, 1978, DC MAYOR CARMELO SCOMA AND HIS DC "MONOCOLORE" GIUNTA RESIGNED FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF BUDGET FOR FY 1978. SCOMA HAD FIRST BECOME MAYOR OF PALERMO IN JANUARY 1976 AND WAS REELECTED IN DECEMBER 1978.

2. TO BREAK ANNOUNCED OPPOSITION OF PCI, PSI, PSDI AND PRI TO GIUNTA'S BUDGET, DC HAD ASKED BUT FAILED TO SECURE VOTES OF BOTH "DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE" AND PLI (LIBERALS REFUSED).

3. ADVANTAGE OF MAINTAINING COLLABORATION WITH PCI, PSI, PSDI AND PRI PREVAILED OVER OTHER CONSIDERATIONS. ABOUT A MONTH EARLIER, ELECTION OF A NEW PROVINCIAL DC "MONOCOLORE" GIUNTA WITH CONCURRENT BUT NOT ESSENTIAL MSI VOTES SERIOUSLY IMPAIRED CONSTITUTIONAL ARC SOLIDARITY.

4. THUS, DC BARTERED RESIGNATION OF SCOMA'S GIUNTA FOR FAVORABLE VOTE ON BUDGET BY PCI, PSI, PSDI AND PRI. TO GIVE LESS POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THEIR VOTE, ONLY "CAPOGRUPPOS" OF DC'S FOUR PARTNERS CAST FAVORABLE BALLOTS. BYZANTIUM COULD NOT HAVE DONE BETTER.
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5. PSI IS REQUESTING PCI VOTING SUPPORT FOR A PROSPECTIVE NEW DC-PSI-PSDI-PRI GIUNA, SUPPORT WHICH PCI REFUSES TO GRANT ON GROUNDS THAT DC PERSISTS IN DENYING ENTRANCE OF PCI INTO GIUNTA. SINCE DC'S PARTNERS ARE UTTERLY DIVIDED ON SUBSTANTIVE AND TRIVIAL MATTERS ALIKE, WHATEVER THE OUTCOME IT APPEARS LIKELY TO BE LEAST HARMFUL FOR DC. COLLINS

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Message Attributes

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